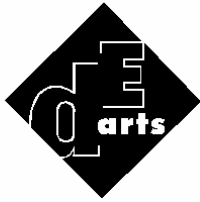


**Delaware Division
of the Arts**



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News Release: For Immediate Release

DELAWARE DIVISION OF THE ARTS ANNOUNCES WRITERS RETREAT

(Wilmington, DE) —May 16, 2006. The Delaware Division of the Arts is sponsoring a poetry and fiction writers retreat on October 19-22, 2006, with Delaware Poet Laureate Dr. Fleda Brown and novelist Dr. Cruce Stark, both writing professors at the University of Delaware. The retreat will include discussions, workshops and critiques. There will also be time reserved for writing during the day. Located in the beautiful setting of Cape Henlopen State Park at the Biden Center in Lewes, Delaware, writers will have the opportunity to focus on their writing under the leadership of two highly regarded writers and teachers.

The cost to each participant is \$250, which includes room and board. The application process is competitive, and participants will be chosen based on the merit of their work. Applications will be reviewed anonymously. Dr. Brown will select eight poetry attendees and Dr. Stark will select eight fiction attendees from the pool of applicants. Beginners are welcome to apply, and no publishing experience is necessary. Current students of Drs. Brown and Stark and past attendees of the Masters Retreat are not eligible.

Application materials consist of the application form, eight pages of poetry or up to 25 pages of fiction, and a copy of your Delaware driver's license or Delaware identification card.

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The application deadline is Thursday, June 15, 2006. For a copy of the application go to the Delaware Division of the Arts website at www.artsdel.org and look for “Hot Topics!” on the home page.

The Delaware Division of the Arts (DDOA), a branch of the Delaware Department of State, is dedicated to promoting and developing the arts throughout the state. Together with its advisory body, the Delaware State Arts Council (DSAC), the Division administers grants and programs that support arts programming, educate the public, increase awareness of the arts, and integrate the arts into all facets of Delaware life.